

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) A cylinder-and-piston unit comprising a cylinder, a piston and a sealing collar, the cylinder comprising a bore, and one of the piston and the cylinder having a wall surface along the bore, the wall surface comprising a first sidewall extending parallel to a longitudinal axis of the bore, a second sidewall contiguous with the first sidewall and extending generally perpendicularly to the first sidewall, a third sidewall contiguous with the second sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall, a fourth sidewall contiguous with the third sidewall and extending generally parallel to the second sidewall, and a fifth sidewall contiguous with the fourth sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall along the bore, the second, third and fourth sidewalls being parts of one unitary body, forming the sealing collar inserted in a groove that is recessed in ~~an~~ the interior wall surface, the sealing collar being positioned in the groove and of the cylinder or in an exterior wall surface of the piston and comprising an outside sealing lip and an inside sealing lip, the outside and inside sealing lips each having a free end, the sealing collar further including a circumferential extension that extends in parallel to the sealing lips, is arranged radially between the outside sealing lip and the inside sealing lip and projects axially beyond the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips, the circumferential extension being configured to contact the second sidewall a sidewall in the groove and maintain the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips out of contact with the second sidewall.

16. (Currently Amended) A cylinder-and-piston unit comprising a cylinder, a piston and a sealing collar, the cylinder comprising a bore, and one of the piston and the cylinder having a wall surface along the bore, the wall surface comprising a first sidewall extending parallel to a longitudinal axis of the bore, a second sidewall contiguous with the first sidewall and extending generally perpendicularly to the first sidewall, a third sidewall contiguous with the second sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall, a fourth sidewall contiguous with the third sidewall and extending generally parallel to the second sidewall, and a fifth sidewall contiguous with the fourth sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall along the bore, the second, third and fourth sidewalls being parts of one unitary body and forming the

Amendment Dated August 2, 2007
Reply to Final Office Action of July 13, 2007

~~sealing collar received in a groove that is recessed in an interior wall surface of the cylinder or in an exterior wall surface of the piston, the sealing collar being positioned in the groove and comprising a first sealing lip and a second sealing lip, the first sealing lip being acted upon dynamically and making contact with the piston or the cylinder, respectively, and the second sealing lip thereof being acted upon statically while resting on a bottom of the groove, the first and second sealing lips each having a free end, the sealing collar further comprising a circumferential extension that extends between the first and second sealing lips, and projects from the first and second sealing lips in an axial direction beyond the free ends of the first and second sealing lips, the sealing collar having a rear surface opposite the free ends of the first and second sealing lips, wherein the sealing collar has a maximum radial width at the free end of the second sealing lip and a minimum radial width at the rear surface.~~

17. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the axial width of the groove is larger than the axial width of the sealing collar.

18. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the second sealing lip is configured such that it can be passed over by pressure fluid flow and hence provides the effect of a valve.

19. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the strength of the extension as a difference between its inside and outside diameters has at least the same rate as the strength of each of the sealing lips.

20. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the end area at the free end of the extension is provided with radial apertures allowing pressure fluid to pass through in a radial direction.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 20, wherein the apertures are open in an axial direction towards the free end of the extension.

23. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit as claimed in claim 16, wherein the extension is integrally connected to the sealing collar and is made of the same material.

Amendment Dated August 2, 2007
Reply to Final Office Action of July 13, 2007

24. (Currently Amended) A cylinder-and-piston unit comprising a cylinder, a piston and a sealing collar, the cylinder comprising a bore, and one of the piston and the cylinder having a wall surface along the bore, the wall surface comprising a first sidewall extending parallel to a longitudinal axis of the bore, a second sidewall contiguous with the first sidewall and extending generally perpendicularly to the first sidewall, a third sidewall contiguous with the second sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall, a fourth sidewall contiguous with the third sidewall and extending generally parallel to the second sidewall, and a fifth sidewall contiguous with the fourth sidewall and extending generally parallel to the first sidewall along the bore, the second, third and fourth sidewalls being parts of one unitary body and bordering the sealing collar received in a groove that is recessed in an interior the wall surface of the cylinder or in an exterior wall surface of the piston, the sealing collar being positioned in the groove and comprising an outside sealing lip and an inside sealing lip, the outside and inside sealing lips each having a free end, the sealing collar further including a circumferential extension that extends generally parallel to the sealing lips, is arranged radially between the outside sealing lip and the inside sealing lip and has a free end that projects axially beyond the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips, the circumferential extension engaging [[a]] the second sidewall [[in]] of the groove and maintaining the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips out of contact with the second sidewall.

25. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit of claim 24, wherein the free end of the circumferential extension is provided with radial apertures allowing pressure fluid to pass through in a radial direction.

26. (Previously Presented) The cylinder-and-piston unit of claim 25, wherein the sealing collar includes a rear surface opposite the free ends of the outside and inside sealing lips, wherein the sealing collar has a maximum outside diameter at the free end of the outside sealing lip and a minimum outside diameter at the rear surface.